

develop effective defenses against these systems. In the United States today, we do not have the military capability to stop even one theater or intercontinental ballistic missile from reaching its target.

Our senior military officers would be reduced to scanning the horizon like the rest of us, watching for the missile that could destroy our city, our family, our home. We are totally vulnerable. But we are told that a 25-year-old treaty with a non-existent entity, the Soviet Union, prevents us from responding to this danger.

Israel, not bounded by an outmoded dogma, is taking steps to develop missile defense and we are assisting in those efforts. We have joined the Israeli government in the Arrow ballistic missile defense initiative to protect your citizens from the very real threat. The Arrow program is a tribute to the ingenuity and determination of the people of Israel to forge an effective defense for your homeland. The United States must aggressively develop both theater and global missile defenses to complement and reinforce the protection Arrow will provide here in Israel.

Containment and defense provide interim security, but they cannot, by themselves, guarantee success. As long as individual dictators or regimes based on hatred work to develop terror weapons, all democratic societies will be threatened with catastrophe. A single nuclear, chemical or biological device in one of our great cities would create a tragedy of unthinkable proportions.

Our third strategy must be to preempt catastrophe by insisting that dictatorships be replaced with democracies. Clearly, the free world has the capacity to liberate the people of Iraq; clearly, the free world has the resources to encourage the people of Iran to complete the process of change which hopefully began with the election of President Khatami. We need the will, the courage and the determination to work together to replace dictatorships seeking weapons of terror with democracies seeking friendship and economic prosperity.

This vision of democratic success and the failure of dictatorships will require the same level of courage and commitment that in World War II defeated Nazi Germany, fascist Italy, and imperial Japan. It will require the unrelenting persistence that for 45 years methodically contained, defended against, and in concert with the Russian and other captive peoples, ultimately replaced a communist dictatorship with fledgling democracies. Those democracies, while still struggling, have advanced freedom dramatically from the police state they replaced.

Free peoples who face down and defeated these dangers, should see today's dangerous but fragile dictatorships for what they are—our opportunities to expand freedom. Sustaining security and establishing freedom will lead not only to peace but also to economic prosperity. If we achieve peace through security in this region, the economies will flourish. They will flourish first because open borders and free trade produce wealth. No one should know this better than the Palestinians. When acts of terror force Israel to seal its border, it is the Palestinians who suffer most. They lose access to the strong Israeli economy, and 100,000 Palestinians are cut off from their jobs. When regional tension chokes off commerce, it is Israel's neighbors who suffer most. Open borders and free trade allow others to share in Israel's economic growth.

In addition, the region's economies will flourish as broad cooperation solves the most pressing problems of the next 50 years. Nowhere is that cooperation more vital than in dealing with the shortage in the region's most precious resource, water. Water has al-

ways been a central security concern in this land. Hezekiah enhanced Jerusalem's security dramatically when he protected the Gihon spring, his water source, by extending the walls of the city. Today, water is an equally critical security concern, with the future of aquifers like the Yarkon as a principal issue in the peace process.

Right now, the United States gives incremental assistance to manage the problem. It has provided hundreds of millions of dollars to the Palestinians, primarily to tap new sources of water and manage the existing ones. In addition, it has assisted other countries in the region by providing them with Israeli expertise on things like drip irrigation and water recycling.

Each of these efforts does assist countries that have a large and growing water deficit. They ultimately have a marginal impact, however. Our challenge for the next 50 years is to find the strategic solution to the shortage of water in the region. We must do more than manage an ever-scarcer resource. We must support the scientific and engineering advances that will erase the shortage of water forever. Israel, the country that caused the desert to bloom, must lead this effort. From the cisterns of Masada to the drip irrigation of today, Israel has learned how to preserve a scarce resource. Today it is the world's leader on those questions.

In the future, Israel should become the world leader on expanding the supply of water. It has both the regional need and the human capital to lower the cost of desalinization and end the shortage of water for the region.

The United States has already invested in sharing Israeli expertise with the region, learning to manage a scarce resource. For the future, leadership demands that we do more than simply manage the current options. We, the United States, must invest with Israel to overwhelm the shortage of water with research that will provide fresh water from an abundant source, the oceans that cover most of our planet.

Our joint efforts for the future are built on the close relationship between our two countries. This relationship has been fostered in a sustained way by the United States Congress. The strong personal bond that members of Congress feel toward Israel has led to consistent support of the state, reaching back to congressional resolutions as early as 1922 that supported a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

Congress approved its first package of aid to Israel, \$65 million, in 1951. Congress pressed to maintain Israel's qualitative military edge. It provided emergency military assistance during the Gulf War. Congress approved \$10 billion in housing-loan guarantees in order to absorb the flood of Jewish refugees from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia. It is Congress that enacted legislation in 1995 that requires our government to move its embassy to Jerusalem, finally recognizing the fact that Jerusalem has been Israel's capital for the last 50 years.

As speaker of the United States House, I want to initiate a far more direct relationship between the Knesset and the Congress. Today, Speaker Tichon and I are inaugurating a new U.S.-Israel interparliamentary initiative on strategic cooperation to be pursued by members from the U.S. Congress and the Knesset. This effort was conceived by Chairman Uzi Landau of the Knesset's Foreign and Defense Affairs Committee and Senator JOHN KYL of the U.S. Congress. The initiative will focus on security issues, particularly the crucial question of missile defense. It offers an excellent starting point for broadening and deepening the interaction between the Congress and the Knesset. The relationship are we establishing between Con-

gress and the Knesset, will not be unique. As democracy spreads across the region, as it inevitably will, we should work together to broaden the interaction with other democratic parliaments.

As we celebrate Israel's 50th anniversary, we honor those both American and Israeli whose commitment to security and freedom ensured Israel's survival. Today, we must draw inspiration from their example. And let me just close by sharing with you. We've had a wonderful several days. We just had a meeting with your Foreign and Defense Committee that was very direct and very candid on both sides, not quite up to the Knesset standard of bluntness, but we're trying to learn. I just want to share with you, for one brief moment, the magic that you represent. One hundred years ago, this was Ottoman Turkish land. Russia was czarist. Germany was imperial. China had not yet had the revolution that ended the Confucian domination, and the Manchu Dynasty was still there. Japan was imperial in every sense, and democracy was a strange idea in only a few countries.

One hundred years later, we are gaining. It's painful. It costs lives. We make big mistakes. If you go to Yad Vashem you're reminded with heart-rendering clarity of the cost of being wrong.

And yet in America, in Israel, in Europe, in more and more of Asia, in Russia, day by day, this thing that we jointly represent—elect people to speak for you, put them in one room, and make them fight it out—this thing is slowly spreading across the planet.

I am convinced from our trip here that Israeli democracy's never been more vibrant. It's never had a greater range of potential leaders pushing, shoving, arguing, it's never wrestled more passionately with the future of Israel and its relation with its neighbors. And as an American, I can tell you how much we gained from these days, how stronger we will be going home, how much more grateful we are that you here, in the city of David, continue to stand for freedom, and how much we want to reach out to work with each and every one of you to make sure that 50 years and 3,000 years from now freedom exists in this land.

Thank you for allowing us to visit.

TENTH ANNUAL ASBURY PARK CAROUSEL AWARDS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, this evening, Thursday, June 4th, the Greater Asbury Park, NJ, Chamber of Commerce, will present its Tenth Carousel Awards Dinner at Christie's Restaurant in Wanamassa, NJ. It is a great honor for me to pay tribute to this year's recipients.

The Carousel Awards express the recognition and appreciation of a grateful community to individuals and organizations who have contributed in many ways to the revitalization of Asbury Park, making this great American city a better place to live and work. The recipients of the 1998 awards are:

New Jersey Natural Gas Company, Spirit of Asbury Park Award; Monmouth County Freeholder Theodore J. Narozanick, Special Recognition Award; The Monmouth Ocean Development Council, Special Recognition

Award; Kleenzie-Benje Carpet Specialist, Business Achievement Award; Burger King of Asbury Park, Community Service Award; and Asbury Park Fire Department & Emergency Medical Services, Community Service Award.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to represent the City of Asbury Park in the U.S. House of Representatives. Asbury Park, on the Jersey Shore, is a city of legendary proportions. Many Americans from other regions of the country may only recognize its name from the title of Bruce Springsteen's first album, "Greetings from Asbury Park, New Jersey." For years and years, people from all walks of life have come to Asbury Park to enjoy the boardwalk, the night life and the sandy beaches. But, besides launching the career of one of America's best-loved singer-songwriters and being a favorite tourist destination for decades, what Asbury Park is really about is a thriving, diverse, tight-knit community, proud of its illustrious past and working hard to build a better future. The recipients of this year's Carousel Awards have all contributed significantly to the advancement of this very special community.

RECOGNIZING EAST BRUNSWICK
HIGH SCHOOL FOR ACHIEVING
FIRST PLACE IN THE NATIONAL
"WE THE PEOPLE" COMPETITION

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to congratulate John Calimano and his students at East Brunswick High School on earning first place in the nation at the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution competition in Washington, D.C. on May 2 through 4, 1998. This is an exceptional program with an outstanding advisor deserving of much acclaim.

During the national finals of the event, more than 1200 students from 50 states and the District of Columbia demonstrated their knowledge of constitutional principles and their relevance to contemporary issues before simulated congressional committees composed of constitutional scholars, lawyers, journalists, and government leaders.

East Brunswick High School has represented New Jersey in the national finals of the program for ten consecutive years—every year that this prestigious event has been held. They have consistently been recognized as an outstanding institution by the program and have set a standard for excellence during their tenure. Their knowledge of the material is exceptional and their ability to articulate this knowledge is impressive. This year, they demonstrated once again that they are among our nation's best and brightest.

Mr. Calimano has been the teacher and advisor for the program at East Brunswick High School and has established a remarkable track record in his time at the school. The founder of the Institute for Political and Legal Education program at the high school, Mr. Calimano's dedication and tireless efforts have established a tradition of honor at the school. I commend him for all that he has done and wish him much success in his future endeavors.

Congratulations to Mr. Calimano and the members of the National Champion team: Mian Azmy, Michael Carr, Daniel Cohen, Michael Cohen, Stacie Dubin, Andrea Feit, Naomi Finkelstein, Christian Forsythe, Hillary Gallanter, Gina Gancheva, Heather Gerchen, Brett Gursky, Denise Heitzenroder, Rachel Katz, Terry Lin, Jonathan Meer, George Mossad, Amanda Rosen, Joel Pruce, Niyati Shah, Naseer Siddique, Michael Sturm, Robert Thompson, Howard Wachtel, Ari Waldman, Jamie Yonks, and Joanna Young. Mr. Speaker, if this outstanding achievement is any indication of the future success of these students, America's brightest days are truly to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, the RECORD currently indicates that I did not vote during roll-call No. 170, on the Hunter Amendment to H.R. 3616, the FY99 Defense Authorization Act. It is my recollection that, in fact, I voted in favor of this important amendment. I therefore ask unanimous consent that the RECORD indicate my support for this amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, due to official business, I was unable to vote on June 3, 1998.

On approving the Journal Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays, Roll No. 193, I would have voted yes. On designating the Carl D. Pursell Post Office, Roll No. 194, I would have voted yes. On designating the Steven Schiff Post Office, Roll No. 195, I would have voted yes.

THE NEED FOR TECHNOLOGY FOR
THE F-15E EAGLE AIRCRAFT

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I want to pass along information to my colleagues today about our nation's defense and a critical issue facing our military forces. The issue concerns much-needed technology for the F-15E Eagle aircraft. The need for this technology is almost always pitted against the realities of the budget and other domestic needs which compete with our military readiness and maintenance expenses.

The F-15E has received the support of the Congress in developing and testing low band self-protection. In the FY97 budget deliberations, Congress chose to develop and test the ALQ-135 Band 1.5, to help the Air Force continue to try and protect the F-15E. We must now move forward to ask the Defense Department to consider the need to procure the ALQ-135 Band 1.5.

Procuring this new technology, which is made in my home state of Illinois, would give greater protection to our men and women in the Air Force. During Desert Shield/Storm, 48 F-15E's were equipped with the ALQ-135 Band 3, or high band. It performed so well during Desert Storm that no single F-15E was lost to enemy threats, against which the Band 3 provides protection. Unfortunately, there is not the same level of protection with the low band threats. Band 1.5 was not available and as a result, at least one F-15E valued at \$50 million was lost. We cannot afford to allow this situation to persist; our airmen and women need the most up-to-date technology possible.

Accelerating funding for the ALQ-135 Band 1.5 will allow much earlier installation and protection of the F-15E, and will provide essential protection to our airmen. The F-15E can accept this technology; everything is ready to plug the black boxes into the aircraft and provide this protection. One reason to accelerate the funding will be to keep the ALQ-135 Band 1.5 production line open, and avoiding \$100 million in cost, savings thousands of jobs with only a \$25 million investment.

I urge my colleagues to give consideration to the need to accelerate funding for the F-15E's ALQ-135 Band 1.5 technology. It will provide needed capability to our airmen and allow hardworking citizens to continue working on the current production line.

STATEMENT RECOGNIZING EL
SALVADOR'S SUCCESSFUL PRI-
VATIZATION PROGRAM

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with the honorable gentleman from North Carolina, Mr. BALLENGER, to recognize the successful privatization program being implemented in El Salvador. Mr. BALLENGER is a distinguished member of our Committee on International Relations, and he and I share a longstanding interest in El Salvador.

After more than a decade of civil war, many people understand that El Salvador has made a successful transition into a healthy, functioning, multi-party democracy—one in which the former FMLN rebels are now completely integrated into Salvadoran society as a political party. What is not as widely known, however, is the fact that El Salvador has also undergone an equally dramatic economic transition. With this statement, we would like to pay tribute to the people of El Salvador and their political leaders, including especially President Armando Calderón Sol, and congratulate them for the success of their recent privatization efforts.

In 1990, El Salvador embarked on the process of modernizing its national economy, including the privatization of key industries. The effect of these policies on the people of El Salvador has been dramatic. In 1997, El Salvador's economy grew by 4 percent, the inflation rate was pushed (from highs of 30 percent in the late 1980s) to below 1.93 percent and unemployment fell to around 7 percent in urban areas. El Salvador is now ranked by the Heritage Foundation as the third most open